



NORTH CAROLINA
State Board of Education
Department of Public Instruction

Report to the North Carolina General Assembly

HIGH SCHOOL REMOTE INSTRUCTION FLEXIBILITY PILOT

SL 2023-134, Section 7.61, (d)

Legislative Update (2024)

Data Provided for State Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Prepared by:

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Executive Summary

Session Law 2023-134 - High School Calendar Flexibility Pilot

Overview of the Law

Session Law 2023-134 established a pilot program to explore greater flexibility in high school calendars across North Carolina. The intent of the pilot was to provide participating districts with the ability to adjust their academic calendars while maintaining compliance with state instructional requirements. The goal was to explore alternative scheduling options to enhance educational outcomes and provide schools with greater autonomy in calendar management.

Communication and Outreach Efforts

To ensure that superintendents and Chief Academic Officers (CAOs) were fully informed about this pilot opportunity, the following communication channels were utilized:

- **Emails to Superintendents:** Direct emails were sent to all district superintendents, detailing the specifics of the pilot and outlining the application process.
- **Superintendents' Newsletter:** The pilot was highlighted in the newsletter to reinforce awareness and provide an additional reference point for superintendents.
- **Emails to CAOs:** Emails were also sent to Chief Academic Officers, offering detailed information on the pilot and its objectives.
- **CAO Presentation:** A presentation was made during a CAO meeting, explaining the pilot program, its benefits, and the application process.
- **DTL Leader Collaborative Presentation:** A presentation was made during a bi-monthly Digital Teaching and Learning Leader Collaborative meeting, explaining the pilot program, its benefits and the application process.

In addition to these communications, superintendents, tech directors, and CAOs were provided with the official application form, along with a **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)** document to clarify any concerns or queries about participation.

Application Outcome

Despite our concerted efforts to communicate this opportunity through multiple channels, as of the **June 1st** application deadline, **no applications** were submitted by districts to participate in the pilot program.

Recommendation for Future Pilots

If the High School Calendar Flexibility Pilot were to continue, we recommend providing districts with **additional flexibility** without requiring the addition of extra instructional days to the school calendar. This could encourage more participation and allow schools to explore innovative scheduling without the pressure of lengthening the school year. Clearer guidelines and more significant adjustments to the calendar structure may also increase district interest in future iterations of this pilot.